Claims

1. An apparatus for curing composite material including a temperature controlled vessel in which the material is placed during curing and an infra-red temperature measuring device located remotely from the component to measure the temperature of at least part of the material during curing.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the measuring device sends temperature information to a system for controlling the temperature of the vessel which processes the information and changes the temperature as necessary.

3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the measuring device is located within the vessel.

4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the measuring device is located outside the vessel

5. An apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the temperature controlled vessel is an autoclave.

6. An apparatus as claimed in any previous claim wherein the infra-red temperature measuring device is a camera.

7. An apparatus as claimed in any previous claim wherein the temperature across the whole of the material is monitored.

8. A method for curing composite material including the steps of;

placing the material in a temperature controlled vessel and then,

curing the material and during the curing monitoring the taking temperature readings and monitoring the temperature of at least part of the material using an infra-red device remote from the material.

9. A method as claimed in claim 8 including processing the temperature readings and then adjusting the temperature of the vessel to maintain a constant curing temperature.

10. An apparatus substantially as herein before described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

11. A method substantially as herein before described with reference to the accompanying drawings.